UNITED NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/23236
22 November 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 NOVEMBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GERMANY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you enclosed a declaration on Yugoslavia issued in Bonn on 18 November 1991 by the Council of Ministers of the Western European Union, of which Germany is currently holding the presidency, and to request that it be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Detlev Graf zu RANTZAU
Permanent Representative of
Germany to the United Nations

Annex

Declaration on Yugoslavia

Ministers noted with interest the report by Mr. Van den Broek, on behalf of the Netherlands EC Presidency, about the recent developments in Yugoslavia, and the efforts of both Lord Carrington and Mr. Cyrus Vance, the special envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General.

Ministers expressed their growing concern about the situation in Yugoslavia. Ministers appealed once again to all parties immediately to cease hostilities. They took note with dismay of the violations of cease-fire agreements, especially by the JNA and Serbian irregulars attacking the cities of Vukovar and Dubrovnik. In this context, they recalled and confirmed the repeated statements by EC Foreign Ministers that under no circumstances will territorial changes brought about by force be recognized.

Ministers stressed that, above all, the civilian populations threatened by the unprecedented violence must be assisted as quickly as possible. In this context, Ministers welcomed the support given by some member States to UNICEF's efforts to provide assistance for Yugoslav children and to allow for their possible evacuation. WEU countries are prepared to participate in operations in order to establish humanitarian corridors.

Ministers expressed their firm support for the efforts of the three WEU members on the United Nations Security Council in favour of a United Nations Security Council resolution concerning a peace-keeping operation in Yugoslavia.

Recalling the conditions necessary for such an operation, namely an agreement by all parties concerned and an effective cease-fire, Ministers expressed the readiness of WEU countries to give practical support to such an operation as soon as the relevant decisions had been taken.

They stressed that the stationing of peace-keeping forces must not in any way sanction the seizure of territory by force.

Ministers expect parties in Yugoslavia to create the appropriate conditions for a United Nations peace-keeping effort. They expressed their hope that the United Nations Security Council would rapidly adopt the necessary resolution.

The WEU Secretariat will make available to the United Nations details of the contingency planning work already done by WEU experts.

The Presidency will convene another meeting of the ad hoc group on Yugoslavia further to develop and adapt WEU's plans in anticipation of a United Nations resolution.

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